

U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth

## COLONEL Robert J. Molinari

Director - Combat Training Center Directorate

Colonel Robert (Bob) Molinari was born in Frankfurt, Germany, and grew up the son of a career Army Officer. He was commissioned a second lieutenant from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1992. COL Molinari's first duty station was Fort Hood, Texas serving in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division as a tank, scout, and support platoon leader from 1992-



1996. COL Molinari reported to Fort Stewart, Georgia, in 1996 where he was assigned to 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division (Mechanized). There he served as a Brigade Assistant Plans and Training Officer. While deployed to Kuwait, COL Molinari assumed command of B Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 69<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment and later took command of the Battalion's Headquarters Company.

In 2000, COL Molinari was assigned to Operations Group, National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, where he served as the OPS GRP adjutant, a battalion maintenance trainer and an infantry company trainer. Following completion of the School of Advanced Military Studies in 2005, COL Molinari reported to the 3d Armor Cavalry Regiment at Fort Carson, Colorado, where he served as the Regimental planner in Tall Afar, Iraq, and a Squadron operations officer in Baghdad as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) from 2005-2006. Following the Regiment's BRAC move to Fort Hood, COL Molinari served as the Squadron executive officer and later served as the Regimental operations officer and Regimental executive officer while deployed to OIF from 2007-2009 in Ninewa Province, Iraq.

In 2009, COL Molinari reported to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii and assumed command of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment (Stryker), 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. COL Molinari commanded the Battalion through its deployment in support of OIF/Operation New Dawn from 2010-2011 in Diyala Province, Iraq. In 2011, COL Molinari then reported to the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk, Louisiana, where he served as a Squadron and Brigade Mission Command Trainer preparing 15 Brigade Combat Teams and advisors for deployment to Afghanistan and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Upon completion of the U.S. Army War College in 2014, COL Molinari assumed command of the 205<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Army, at Camp Atterbury, Indiana and focused on training the Reserve Component.



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In December 2015, he was assigned to U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Florida, serving as the division chief for counter-terrorism and then assisting the stand-up of a new directorate, the Network Engagement Team.

COL Molinari's decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star for Valor, the Bronze Star Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal with silver Oak Leaf Cluster.